

# DUKE MEMORIAL MESSENGER

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## GOALS AND GROANING

One of the most appalling things I have ever heard said of a person is that at his retirement, he not only did not leave a big hole to fill; he wasn't even missed. No one is indispensable; but it is rather dreadful that one's departure makes no difference at all! That leads me into thinking of the goals we set for ourselves and how a few of us seem to have no goals at all.

When we set a goal, it ought to be great enough and difficult enough that literally we must groan as we seek to fulfill it. We groan not because groaning makes sweet music but because of the total involvement of ourselves, body, mind, spirit, will, in a worthy endeavor. A lesser objective hardly qualifies as a goal; anything greater may be impossible so that we condemn ourselves to permanent frustration even though we may try as hard as ever one can.

When I consider how very earnestly some of us work at goals we have set for ourselves, I marvel at the perseverance and willingness to go all out that marks such people. Almost never do I feel sorry for some one who is possessed of a vision of what ought to be and what can be and who thus works unremittingly at the task. The person for whom I feel sadness and compassion is that person who has never been seized by a great desire for achievement so that the person really has no idea of what he or she might do. They live their days in a measured slowness, a state of perpetual ennui and unwillingness to be challenged.

The saints in Christian faith across the ages have been people who were seized with the greatness of opportunity of Christian witness and service and who responded to that vision with a total commitment of themselves. By no means have all of them lived to see the fulfillment of what they sought to do; but no one has lacked the encouragement of some progress noted, some sense of the worthwhile nature of what they worked to achieve. Next Sunday, out of Romans 8:18-23 we are going to think together about frustration (which in some senses is not a bad word at all) and fulfillment (which may be either a blessed or an evil word). Beyond the words are the facts - and all of us know some of them. Read the epistle and think of frustration/fulfillment in your own life. Then come and let us share God's Word as we think of what is happening in our world and our lives,

-- Ed Smith

THE LARGEST TABLECLOTH Duke Memorial has is apparently visiting in some one's home! This cloth is large enough for four of the tables in Whitford Hall and is needed for wedding receptions and like events. If you have it in your home, having taken it there to be cleaned and made ready for the using, please return it to the Church office. Or, if you know where it is, please let us know so that we may avoid upsetting folks who will need it very soon. Thank you.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES abound in the Conference Leadership School, Fayetteville at Methodist College. Two sessions, 31 July - 2 August and then 2 August - 5 August offer you just about everything you can imagine and some things that will strain your imagination in terms of what can be done in and through local churches. The detailed announcement in the Messenger of 5 July spells it out. The response has to come from you.

THE BULLETIN  
 DUKE MEMORIAL  
 METHODIST CHURCH (USPS 553-880)  
 504 West Chapel Hill Street  
 Durham, N. C. 27701

Postmaster send address changes to Duke Memorial Methodist  
 Church, 504 W. Chapel Hill Street, Durham, N. C. 27701

12 JULY 1981

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
 The Epistle: Romans 8:18-23  
 The Sermon: Frustration and Fulfillment  
 Greeters: Mr. and Mrs. John Biddle  
 Junior Church Leader: Holly Eggleston

SUMMER MONTHS mean vacations - and that applies to Church staff members as well as to others! Also, in summer, there are Conference training opportunities and workshops to which staff members go and in which often they lead. This can mean that at times we are shorthanded in the church office. In such events, please call Mr. Smith, 489-2210, Mr. Haddock, 682-0073, Miss Biddle, 477-9019, or Mrs. Massey, 489-5179. Some one is always on call. Thank you for your understanding.

MEMORIALS RECEIVED WITH APPRECIATION:

In loving memory of Irving Allen by:  
 Max and Isabel Engelhart

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\* "Fun at the Movies" - July 15 \*

\* featuring \*

\* MIRACLE OF THE WHITE STALLIONS \*

\* A Walt Disney movie about a \*

\* courageous man, a devoted woman, and \*

\* a handful of heroes who rescue the \*

\* magnificent Lipizzan stallions - a \*

\* true story of World War II. \*

\* Admission: 50¢ for all ages \*

\* 7:00 p. m. in Whitford Hall \*

\* \* \* \* \*

ATTENDING ACS (Annual Conference Session for Youth) at Methodist College in Fayetteville this week is Marti Tyor as youth delegate from Duke Memorial. Margaret Anne Biddle is also attending as an adult counselor.

CHURCH CALENDAR JULY 12 - 18, 1981

Sunday	9:45 a. m.	Church School
	10:15 a. m.	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
	10:55 a. m.	Worship Service
Tuesday		UMYF - Swimming Party and Vespers at the Comans
Wednesday	7:00 a. m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast, Whitford Hall
	10:00 a. m.	Bazaar Workshop, Whitford Hall
	6:30 p. m.	Volleyball
	7:00 p. m.	Fun at the Movies, Whitford Hall
Thursday	10:00 a. m.	Bible Study in Library, Mike Pasquarello, leader